



Contents:

| | |
|---|---|
| John Rubitschun Officer Recruit Training Class Graduation | 1 |
| Exemplary Staff Recognized | 2 |
| DRC's Youth Deterrent Program | 3 |
| Law Enforcement Torch Run Plane Pull | 4 |
| ECF Employee of the Year and Honor Guard Recognition | 5 |
| People Make the Difference | 6 |
| LCF's Weather Data Collection | 7 |
| IBC Relay for Life Golf Outing | 7 |
| EPIC News | 8 |



F.Y.I. is a publication of the Michigan Department of Corrections, Office of Public Information and Communications. Please submit articles through your supervisor to Jessica Peterson at petersonj14@michigan.gov

John Rubitschun Officer Recruit Training Class Graduation

On April 25, 2014, the John Rubitschun Officer Recruit Training Class graduated. The class was comprised of 105 officer recruits who have been placed in correctional facilities throughout the state. The John Rubitschun class is a first of its kind as the officer recruits in this class paid for the first six weeks of their training which was held at Jackson College. Upon successfully completing the first six weeks of the training, the officer recruits were then hired by the Department of Corrections after which they completed an additional two weeks of training as employees.

John Rubitschun was employed with the department for 36 years. Mr. Rubitschun began his career with the department as a parole agent, worked in central office on parole violation and interstate compact issues, and joined the Parole Board staff as an administrative law judge where he held this position until he was appointed as a member of the Parole Board. John served as the Parole Board Chair for five years. In 2006, John was appointed as the Deputy Director of the Field Operations Administration (FOA) where he served until his retirement in June of 2011.

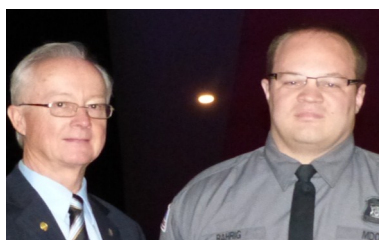
Three members of the John Rubitschun class were recipients of class awards:

- Carl Roseboro received the Josephine B. McCallum Award for excellence and leadership,
- Paul Rahrig received the Jack Budd Award for determination and effort, and
- Joshua Kolonich received the Academic Achievement Award for outstanding academic performance.

We wish the John Rubitschun Class the best of luck as they embark on their careers as Corrections Officers.



L to R: John Rubitschun & Officer Carl Roseboro.



L to R: John Rubitschun & Officer Paul Rahrig.



L to R: John Rubitschun & Officer Joshua Kolonich.

MDOC STAFF RECOGNIZED FOR EXEMPLARY ACTIONS

A Day at the Beach Ends Well: This summer, Corrections Officer Steven Greil was at Sunday Lake Beach with his family when he noticed a young child floating face down in the water. Initially, Officer Greil believed that the child was playing or snorkeling in the water, but something just didn't seem right. He quickly ran to the child, lifted him out of the water and carried the young child to shore. The seven-year-old boy was blue and unresponsive. Officer Greil, assisted by additional beachgoers, cleared a lodged food item from the boy's throat. As a result, the boy began to breathe and regained consciousness. Officer Greil closely monitored the boy until paramedics arrived at the scene. He assisted the paramedics with placing the boy on the gurney and loading him into the ambulance. Officer Greil recently met the young boy and his family, and the boy has recovered from this terrifying experience. Due to Officer Greil's instinct and quick response, he ensured that a happy ending occurred for this boy and his family after their day at the beach.



L to R: A/Asst. Dir. Lloyd Rapelje, Ofc. Steve Greil, Ojibway Warden Linda Tribbley and Cpt. Scott Michelli



L to R: Sgt. Andreas Petersen and Officer Jeramie Mangus

Prisoner in Distress and Unable to Breathe: While running meal lines at Carson City Correctional Facility, Officer Jeramie Mangus noticed a prisoner choking and quickly responded. Sgt. Andreas Petersen noticed a commotion occurring so he went to investigate. Upon his arrival, he observed Officer Mangus conducting abdominal thrusts in an attempt to dislodge the blockage that was causing the prisoner to choke and have difficulty breathing. The prisoner was still in distress; therefore, Sgt. Petersen administered abdominal thrusts as well. After the third abdominal thrust, the prisoner was able to breathe. Sgt. Petersen and Officer Mangus monitored the prisoner until health care staff arrived at the scene and took the prisoner for further observation. The swift actions of Sgt. Petersen and Officer Mangus saved the prisoner's life.

Aiding in a Criminal Investigation: Officer Diana Hengesbach was contacted by an MDOC Kent County Field Operations Agent and a Grand Rapids Police Detective who were seeking information in regard to a suspected child molester. Officer Hengesbach did not hesitate to provide assistance. With her help, the Grand Rapids Police Detective was provided information from the Visitor Tracking database which assisted in the investigation of several suspects. Officer Hengesbach's determination to assist with this investigation exemplifies her integrity, convictions, and commitment to the Department's charge of helping to create a safer Michigan.



L to R: Dir. Dan Heyns and Officer Diana Hengesbach

The Detroit Reentry Center's Youth Deterrent Program — “Handcuffs or Cufflinks?”



L to R: Participants in DRC's Youth Deterrent Program proudly display the cufflinks that they received at the "Handcuffs or Cufflinks?" program.

On February 28, 2014, Warden Anthony Stewart of the Detroit Reentry Center spoke to 33 youth from the Metropolitan areas of Detroit and Toledo during DRC's monthly Youth Deterrent Program. The Youth Deterrent Program is designed to deter at-risk youth from falling into the traps that often lead to entering into the criminal justice system. During the February session, the participating youth were given a set of cufflinks which were donated by Criminal Justice Professor Dr. June Rogers from Baker College. The cufflinks are intended to serve as a reminder for the at-risk youth to strive for success while staying in school and off the streets. "Handcuffs or Cufflinks?" is a concept developed by DRC's Youth Deterrent Program Coordinator, Human Resource Developer (HRD) Jeffrey Allison. During Allison's presentation, he wore a handcuff on one wrist and a cufflink on the other. He asked the youth, "What do handcuffs represent?" Usual responses to this question include that an individual is in trouble, has had contact with the police, has been arrested and is restricted. Next, Allison asked the youth, "What do cufflinks represent?" The youths' responses included that cufflinks represent professionalism and success. Allison follows up the two previous questions and asks, "What do handcuffs and cufflinks have in common?" Typically, at least one youth will reply that "they both go on your wrist (cuff)." HRD Allison and the Youth Deterrent Program prisoners concluded the meeting by encouraging the youth to follow the paths of success in order to wear cufflinks on their wrists, instead of handcuffs.

LAW ENFORCEMENT TORCH RUN PLANE PULL FOR SPECIAL OLYMPICS MICHIGAN

The Annual Law Enforcement Torch Run Plane Pull for Special Olympics Michigan, will be held at the Gerald R. Ford International Airport in Grand Rapids, Michigan on Saturday July 19, 2014 at 9:00 a.m. This year, Special Olympics Michigan and the Law Enforcement Torch Run will be celebrating their 30th Anniversary and the Ford International Airport will be celebrating its 50th Anniversary.

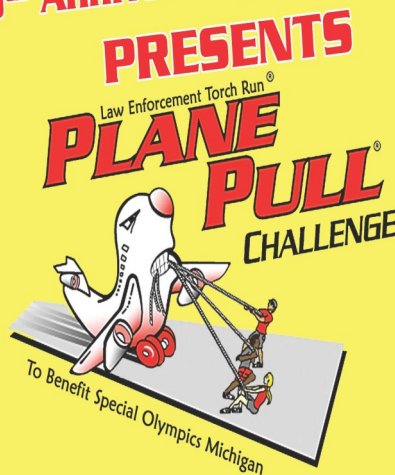
The Plane Pull Challenge is a giant tug-of-war between a 25-member team and a FedEx Boeing 757 aircraft weighing more than 82 tons!! Each 25-member team will use a rope to pull the 757 a total of 12 feet in as short of time possible. The team that pulls the jet in the quickest time will win the pull, awards and bragging rights, although other awards will be given out as well after the pull.

We are looking for teams from every walk of life including but not limited to: families, friends, high schools, colleges, local gyms, businesses, corporations, government agencies, males and females. The cost is FREE as long as the team raises the required donations for their effort of \$50 per member or \$1,250 per team. If you are interested in participating, please contact Lt. James W. Dennis from the Richard A. Handlon Correctional Facility at dennisjw777@yahoo.com or 989-292-5172.

Teams can sign up at <https://www.firstgiving.com/somi/2014-grand-rapids-plane-pull> under your team's name. Upon signing up, each team member will receive individual Firstgiving accounts that can be sent out to family and friends for fundraising purposes. The Individual Most Money Raised Award is presented to the participant who raises the most money which is donated to the Special Olympics Michigan.

Please consider getting involved in this worthy cause!

**Gerald R. Ford International Airport
50th Anniversary Open House**



Saturday, July 19, 2014

Registration: 8:00 am

Opening Ceremonies & Plane Pull: 9:00 am

Awards & Lunch: 12:00 pm



**Gerald R. Ford International Airport
Grand Rapids, Michigan**

25-person teams must raise a minimum of \$1250 to participate – that's just \$50 per person. All proceeds go to Special Olympics Michigan.

Contact: Ashley Diersch

or Sarah Henry



(616) 583-1202

(734) 476-0701



Ashley.Diersch@somi.org

Sarah.Henry@somi.org

**Special
Olympics
Michigan**



50
1963 YEARS 2013
GERALD R. FORD
INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT

Sponsored
by FedEx

FedEx

Register Online at:

www.firstgiving.com/somicivic/2014-grand-rapids-plane-pull

OAKS CORRECTIONAL FACILITY STAFF MEMBER OF THE YEAR

Congratulations to Sandi Martis, as she is the Oaks Correctional Facility (ECF) Staff Member of the Year. Sandi was nominated by a group of her co-workers and ultimately selected by a committee of four staff members comprised of supervisors and administrators.

Sandi has been with the MDOC since the spring of 1977 when she began her career in the field. In 1992, she transferred to ECF as the Warden's Secretary. Sandi departed the MDOC briefly in 1998 to work for the then named Department of Agriculture, but soon returned to the MDOC as the Deputy Warden's Secretary.

Sandi is the pinnacle of professionalism and is always willing to help anyone in need. During her time at ECF, Sandi has been instrumental in organizing and training many other secretaries for the facility. Sandi is ECF's point person in regard to computer system upgrades, in which she worked to ensure that there was a seamless transition to Windows 7 for the facility. She also ensures that ECF is in compliance with department policies and operating procedures.



***L to R: ECF Dep. Warden Tim Ball,
Sandi Martis and
ECF Warden Lori Gidley***

Sandi is the first person to volunteer to assist those in need whether it is at ECF or with the many organizations that she is involved in including Relay for Life and Breast Cancer Awareness.

HONOR GUARD MEMBERS REACH SIGNIFICANT MILESTONE



***Above: Assistant
Commander John
Fleenor***

The Michigan Department of Corrections Honor Guard would like to recognize Assistant Commander John Fleenor (Gus Harrison Correctional Facility) and unit member Charles Traylor (Richard A. Handlon Correctional Facility) for reaching a significant milestone with the unit - their tenth anniversary. Only about 15% of members who have served in the unit reach the ten-year mark so their accomplishment is a rarity among unit members. Fleenor is currently Asst. Commander of the unit and has been with the MDOC for 25 years. Traylor is a squad leader for the unit and has been the unit's signal caller for parades. He has 15 years with the MDOC. Fleenor and Traylor started with the Honor Guard in March of 2004. Both have served on countless details during their 10 years with the unit and they continue to serve with integrity and excellence.



***Above: Squad Leader
Charles Traylor***



Women's Huron Valley Correctional Facility Employee Working to Create "Healthy Communities"

Resident Unit Manager Roderick Kilgore of the Women's Huron Valley Correctional Facility, spends a lot of his time outside of work setting up events to promote good health and healthy living. Kilgore and other members of his fraternity organized a "Healthy Communities" event which provided numerous medical screenings, free of charge, to members of the public. "Healthy Communities" attendees were able to receive health care screenings which included blood pressure testing, cholesterol testing, glucose and diabetes assessment, and HIV testing, just to name a few. Kilgore and his fellow organizers worked with local medical and dental providers to recruit volunteers for the "Healthy Communities" event. Thank you for your dedication and commitment to promoting good health, as well as assisting our fellow citizens.

PEOPLE MAKE THE DIFFERENCE

BLACK KNIGHTS HOCKEY TEAM REPRESENT FOR GREAT CAUSES



The Black Knights hockey team participated in two tournaments in March and April which raised funds for noteworthy causes.

The Black Knights participated in a weekend-long tournament in Grand Rapids, the Copper Cup, in which all proceeds from the tournament benefited the Law Enforcement Torch Run for Special Olympics Michigan.

On April 5, the Black Knights played the Lenawee County Blue Knights. The proceeds from this game benefited the family of fallen Lenawee County Corrections Officer Colby Butts who passed away unexpectedly in the fall of 2013.



Lakeland Correctional Facility Plays Part in Weather Data Collection

Branch County has been a weather data collection site for the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) since 1868. The NOAA's data collection system was placed at the Coldwater Regional Mental Health Center in May of 1932 and the Department has carried on this tradition since 1985.



Above: Bob Longrey, LCF
Power Plant Operator

The weather data collected from this site is sent to the National Climatic Data Center (NCDC) where it is achieved for future use to assist with determining weather patterns, river conditions and farming.

The NCDC, located in Asheville, North Carolina, maintains the world's largest climate data archive and provides climatological services and data throughout the United States and worldwide. NCDC's records archives range from paleoclimatology data, to centuries-old journals, to data that is less than an hour old. The NCDC's mission is to preserve the data and make it available to the public, businesses, government and researchers.

Staff at the Lakeland Correctional Facility's power plant monitors hourly precipitation (rain, sleet or snow). Lakeland's staff also record daily weather conditions such as temperature, fog, thunder, hail and damaging wind conditions. This information is entered into the NOAA database which the NCDC utilizes.

COMMEMORATE MEMORIAL DAY BY PROUDLY FLYING AN AMERICAN FLAG



Michigan State Industries is selling American Flags that are made in Michigan. These all-weather flags are made for extra durability and strength, made of 100% nylon with embroidered stars and sewn strips.

There are five sizes to choose from. The smallest flag is 3 ft. by 5 ft. and priced at \$19.95, and the largest flag size is 8 ft. by 12 ft. and priced at \$74.95.

Place your order online at <http://www.michigan.gov/msi>.

EFFECTIVE PROCESS IMPROVEMENT AND COMMUNICATION (EPIC) CLOTHING MANAGEMENT TEAM

MICHIGAN DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS

EPIC

EFFECTIVE PROCESS IMPROVEMENT AND COMMUNICATION

The EPIC Clothing Committee is comprised of a cross functional team that includes Quartermasters, Assistant Resident Unit Supervisors (ARUS), a MSI Garment Manufacturer, a Sergeant, a Resident Unit Manager (RUM) and Business Managers. The diversity of this team allows members to utilize their experience with quartermaster clothing issues, as well as other concerns that effect the Department of Corrections in the area of prisoner clothing.

The committee's current goal is to develop a state wide process for the issuance and

monitoring of prisoner clothing. Part of this process is to establish guidelines for prisoners and to ensure prisoners are accountable for the use and care of items issued to them. In order to achieve this goal, the committee has developed training for staff and prisoners to ensure a consistent process.

This committee has proposed several ideas to leadership, some of which have been adopted and implemented, some were sent back for further review and for more information, and some suggestions were not practical for the Department of Corrections and were not approved by leadership. A few examples of ideas presented by the committee that were approved and ratified by leadership include: the elimination of orange stripes on prisoner state blues, the elimination of stenciling, and instituting quartermaster clothing training. These recommendations, among others, have resulted in creating efficiencies for the Department.

Future plans for the committee include the roll out of training for all facilities. This will ensure a state wide process for the issuance and accountability of prisoner clothing which will result in maximizing cost savings in this area.

SHARE YOUR POSITIVE PERSONAL STORIES

Personal Portrait shares the personal accomplishments and actions of our employees. If you know about something an employee has done that deserves some praise or credit, let us know! Email the story and photos to peterstonj14@michigan.gov F.Y.I. will share their story with the rest of the MDOC family.

